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Philosophical Transactions

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Whatsoever is melted in the melting Furnace, is let out through an hole at the bottom thereof into the pan, which is plac'd in the earth before it, and, thus expos'd, it immediately acquires an hard scum, dross, loas or cake, which being often taken off from the top, the metal remaining in it becoms purer; to which is added Lead, and after some time the melted metal is taken out. Then being again melted in the Driving Furnace, the Lead, or what else remains mixt with the Silver is driven off by the blowing two great bellows, and runs over in the form of Litharge: that which sirft comes over is the White, and that which last, being longer in the fire, is the Red, not that it is Litharge of Gold, both being driven off from the same metal.

As Chremnitz Gold-ore hath Silver in it, so most of the Schemnitz Silver-ore holds some Gold; which they separate by melting the Silver, then granulating it, and afterwards by dissolving it in Aqua fortis, whereby the Gold is left at the bottom, and is afterwards melted; the Aqua

fortis is distilled from the Silver, and serveth again for use.

The Silver then separated from all its former associats, is sent to Chremnitz, where they coyn it into pieces of a mixt metal (which is the common Money of the Country,) after this manner: They melt it with about the same quantity of Copper, and run it into Bars, which they beat out; then softning them in the fire, draw them out to an exact thinness between two Steel-Wheels; then they cut them out into round pieces with an Instrument like a Shomakers Punk, and then boil them with Tartar and Salt, shake them in a Sack with Small-coal and Water, dry them in a Kettle perforated, and afterwards they are drawn between two Wheels, in which they receive their Stamp.

So far this generous Travailer of the Hungarian Gold-and Silver-mines: what he hath observed concerning the Copper-mines, and the Baths in those

parts, we must referr to the next opportunity.

Some Inquiries relating particularly to the Bleeding of Walnuts; suggested by Dr. Ezerel Tonge in a Letter of his to the Publisher, of March 22. 1670.

Fter I had been troubled a while at the Observation of Mr. Willoughby, Concerning Sycamores staying in hot, and running in cold weather, and had re-commended an Hypothesis to salve the Phanomena, and to reconcile the seeming repugnancy's *, he hath rais'd two other difficulties for me, of Sycomores running in November, and Walnuts never running but in cold weather: The former of which Observations puts me out of conceit of a Salvo, I found, and offer'd, in my publisht Papers, to Birch suppos'd to have run in Autumne, and found to have jelly'd the hole

hole full at Spring, which was bored that time Twelve-Moneth before, and yielded not any fap at all that Spring, as far as could be observed, and was not come to its season of bleeding the second Spring, when the Jelly was observed in the bor'd hole *. The latter, of the Walnut not bleeding but in cold weather, being inconsistent with the Observations, often made by me

of that Tree, not only bleeding and bleeding longer in warmer weather, but bleeding longer at the roots on the South-fide in the Sun, than on the North-fide in the Shade, and conftantly governing the Course of its Sap in its beginning to rise and to stop daily at the rising and setting of the Sun; I shall betake my self, instead of opining, to make some naked Queries for the sinding out the matter, viz.

1. Whether this Observation of Mr. Willoughby's concerning the Walnut-Tree, was in Roots, Body, Branches; all, or some, or one?

2. Whether the Sap of a Tree, as to its motion, be not influenced from the Full or Wane, or other Aspect of the Moon to the Sun, &c?

3. Whether the Walnut, being a more folid Wood, have not some alteration as to heat, ascent of Sap, &c. from thence different from Birch?

4. What the Age and Bulk of the Tree, confuming perhaps insensibly what rose insensibly in hot, not in cooler Weather?

5. What the time of the Year? The Aspes run only, as M. Midsord relates, before February; the Hopp about Hopp-harvest. Withies in April, &c.

6. Whether the weight of the Atmo-sphere will put some check to Sap rising in that part of the Root, which is cut off from the Body? And whether the exclusion of that Imped ment, by closing the cut Root in Glass, will cause any sensible alteration: to be tried in several Roots of the same Tree of like Diameter.

I want a good Thermometer, Barometer, and Hygro-meter, (or if you will have English Names for them, a Heat-Weight-and-Wet-Wiser) to make more accurate Observations, how far the ascending of Sap depends on the Air, and the several temperatures of the same.

An Extract of a Letter

Written by Francis Willoughby Equire to the Publisher, containing some Observations of his made on some Sycamore-Trees, the Black-Poplar, and the Walnut: As also his thoughts about the Dwarf-Oaks, and the Stellar Fish described in Numb. 57.

Am forry, I cannot return you a better Answer to yours of March 19; the Experiments, which our leasure hath since permitted us to make, being not sufficient to found a new Hypothesis on, to